

Are you having a hard time making ends meet? Check your eligibility for a wide range of economic supports at www.myBenefits.ny.gov

New York State Resources to Help Families Make Ends Meet

Especially during this economic downturn many families are having a hard time making ends meet. New York State has made it easier for low and moderate-income families find out about available economic supports and services that can make it easier to make ends meet. A new Governor's website www.mybenefits.ny.gov is now available to make it easier for individuals to determine if they may be eligible for benefits. Through the myBenefits website anyone can quickly and confidentially check their possible eligibility for a range of supports and services. By answering a simple set of questions, people in New York State can find out if they may qualify for benefits such as nutritional assistance (food stamps), Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax credits, health insurance programs including Healthy NY, Family Health Plus, Child Health Plus, Medicaid, and the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC), Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), free and reduced school meals and temporary assistance. The myBenefits homepage includes a link to Resources for Working Families www.otda.state.ny.us that provides more detailed information on these programs.

As part of this effort to maximize access to benefits, the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) has also created a series of marketing materials as part of the WorkPays NY campaign. These materials are available to support outreach to low and moderate income households for a broad range of economic support benefits. These resources include:

- [myBenefits Palm Card, PUB-4951](#): This card is a quick and easy way to let people know about the new website www.myBenefits.ny.gov. These cards are printed in English on the front and translated on the back into the following six languages: Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Korean and Russian
- [WorkPays NY Flyer, PUB-4952](#) and [PUB-4952 SP](#): These flyers are meant to draw the attention of low-moderate income working people to the major supports they may be losing out on. Also, the flyer prompts them to check their eligibility for and to obtain more information on work supports on *myBenefits*. These resources are presented in a manner intended to reduce stigma sometimes associated with public benefits and to motivate workers to pursue needed benefits. This is a two-sided flyer with the Spanish translation on the back. Arabic, Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Korean and Russian versions are also available to local districts. The NYS OTDA Hotline number is included to accommodate those without internet access.
- [WorkPays NY Poster, PUB-4952A](#) and [PUB-4952A SP](#) Due to size (11" x 17") poster not enclosed. : The **WorkPays NY** poster promotes economic supports and encourages working people and those seeking work to obtain more information on and to explore their eligibility for economic supports on *myBenefits*. In addition to English and Spanish posters, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Korean and Russian versions are also available. The NYS Hotline number is included to accommodate those without computer/internet access.

- [Employer Resource Guide, PUB-4953](#): The purpose of the Employer Resource Guide is threefold; to highlight several primary work support programs, to recommend strategies on how employers can promote work supports, and to emphasize for employers that it makes good business sense to inform lower wage employees of these benefits to help them achieve financial stability.

If not already doing so, I encourage you to order and to use these outreach materials to promote economic supports that may help many of the families you serve and employ in your district.

Ordering Materials: To order hard copies of available publications developed by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) use the [OTDA Form 876 EL \(DOC\)](#) or [OTDA Form 876 EL \(PDF\)](#) and either mail, fax or e-mail it to:

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